



No. 112

August

1917

O.S. Johnson, Saga Writer

Translated by Oliver Westby

Transcribed by Lori Lockrem Marshall

XIII

Hans Larsen was born in 1840 on the Skotland farm, Soknedalen, Ringerike. At age three, his parents moved to Kittelsby, where they lived for a few years. In 1851 he emigrated together with his parents and a brother by name Peter, and came to Iowa, where the town Calmar is located. A brother by name Anders, and sister Randi Støveren had emigrated one year previous, and were living in the Calmar area, where his parents and the two other siblings had settled. His parents were already old and poor when they emigrated, but they had a strong trust in God's trust and keeping, when they left Norway, and they were not disappointed. Their son Andres had then settled on a piece of land, and the parents lived with him until their deaths.

- Hans Larsen tells, that the first two winters he was here, he worked in the Wisconsin forest. The first winter he was paid five dollars per month, and the second winter was given ten dollars per month. That summer and the rest of the first six years in America he lived with farmers, and mostly with Lars Land and Thore Skotland. In 1855 he was confirmed by Pastor Koren. In 1857 he worked as a store clerk with a merchant in McGregor, Iowa. In 1861 together with a Swedish boy, he went into business under the name Peterson and Larsen.

In 1867 he married a German girl with which whom they live happily together. In 1871 he sold his part of the business to his partner, and moved to Nebraska City, Nebraska, where he together with a German started an iron works business. In 1878 he sold his part of the business, and moved to Syracuse, Nebraska, and began a similar business, which he managed until 1905, and then sold this business, and has since been partner in a bank business, which he established in 1882, and has been its president since 1896.

Since he came to Nebraska, he has been a member of the German Lutheran congregation.

Page 578

The last year he and some others left the old German congregation, and established their own congregation, and they now have their own pastor, and belong to the Iowa Synode.

Mrs. Nils Halvoren, Lonsdale, Minnesota, whose maiden name was Barbro Haugen, was born on August 6th, 1845 at Haugen in Strømsmobygden, Ringerike, of parents Asbjørn Olsen Haugen and wife Rønnaug Nilsdaughter. Her father was born on August 22nd, 1822, and her mother was born at Tangen, Soknedalen in 1818.

Her grandfather was Ole Kolbjørnson, and her father's mother was Barbro Knutsdatter, and came from Trøstheim in Flaa, Hallingdal. Her mother's father's name was Nils Lunde, from Aadalen, and her mother's mother was Ragnhild Olsdatter from Tangen, Soknedalen.

Kolbjørn Haugen's siblings were Barbro, Guri, ---, and Kristi, all now deceased. Guri immigrated to America and married a Hallingdal by name Ole Kaste. After his death, she married again to Ole O. Juverud, and lived in Otter Tail County, Minnesota. until her death. Kolbjørn Haugen and wife Rønnaug had the following children:

Page 579

Mrs. Narve Ellensen lives in Henning, Minn; Mrs. Ellen Herbrandsen Tunga lives in Vining, Minnesota; Mrs. Ole Ellensen and Mrs. Erik Ellensen, both live in Henning, Minnesota; Sons Ole and Kristian live by Henning as farmers. Barbro married Nils Halvorson. He was born on November 16th, 1840 at Sletteie in Soknedalen. His siblings were Anna, Klemet, Knut, Siri, Randi, Ingeborg and Peder. Peder now lives by Vining; the others are deceased.

Nils Halvorson and family immigrated to America in 1871, and settled by Lonsdale, Minnesota. Their children are: Helge, born in Norway, lives by Faribault, Minnesota; Conrad Ingevald lives by Henning, Minnesota; Bernt Rudolph lives by Lonsdale, Minnesota. Nils Halvorson died in 1909.

Asbjørn Haugen emigrated in 1874, and settled by ---, Minnesota. He died in 1905.

Lars Lunde was born on the Lunde farm in Aadalen on ---, 1836 of parents Nils Aslesen Lunde and wife Ragnhild Paulsdatter, born at Enger, Aadalen. His father was born in 1796, and in 1824 married Ragnhild Paulsdatter Enger. They immigrated to America in 1869, and settled in Hayward, Minnesota, where they both died the same fall.

Lars Nilson Lunde first attended school in the circuit school in Aadalen; but about age 14 he moved to Gausdal, Gudbrandsdal and attended high school for two years. He then went to Kristiania and worked in a mechanical work scope for about two years, but then had to move due to illness. He then went home again, where he fished and hunted. In 1860 he came to Valdres, and began working in the forest, until he was drafted into the army, and was stationed at Gardermoen.

In the fall and winter he worked as a "skogfuldmægtig" for his brother, who owned a large forest, and also worked

Page 580

as "skogfuldmægtid" for K. Morterud in Gudbrandsdal and other forest owners.

In 1865 he decided to immigrate to America, and left Norway in September, and came to his two siblings in Wisconsin, who had emigrated earlier. The ship he traveled on from Kristiania made a stop in London,

England, where he was able to see the Krystal Palace, the Egipton Museum, etc. The Krystal Palace is of steel and glass in a park by a fish dam.

There were five emigrants from Gausdal in Gudbrandsdal, and around 80 from Østerdal in this group. From London to Quebec took sixteen days, and in the English Channel they met the Great Eastern, which at that time was the world's largest ship. This ship as known, was built for the laying down of the telegraph cable across the Atlantic. The worst on the whole trip he said, was onboard the Steamer over Huron and Lake Michigan. The emigrants were packed below decks, and were not allowed to go topside for not to go over the side.

However, they came to Milwaukee in good condition, after having been confirmed in this pig-pen for two days.

From Milwaukee he went by rail and "Apostol horses" until he came to his sister, who lived by Iola, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, where he stayed for a month, and then went to Minnesota to his Uncle Peder Lunde, where he stayed for two months, and after to Waupaca County, Wisconsin again, where he found work in the forest for a Yankee, and for to learn English.

This Yankee was a nice fellow, and also paid him well, 30 dollars per month.

He also worked with Peter Rogstad and cooked "Løn" syrup, but this business did not even buy a cup of coffee, as he gave

Page 581

his part to his sister.

After this experiment with "Lønsaften" he walked on foot 120 miles to Milwaukee, where he worked partly in town, and partly on a steamship. He then went to Manistee, Michigan, where he worked at a sawmill, and from there into the forest, where he took part in the timber harvest, and hired three men with him.

He also took piece -ate floating timber, in which he earned quite a good wage. Later he became a "scaler" for a large logging company.

In 1869 he married Kari Endresdatter. She was born in 1849 in Aadalen, and came together with her parents to America in 1852. She went with him to Michigan, and cooked in the camp where he worked. However, this forest work did not satisfy the young couple, and the same year they moved to Hayward, Minnesota, where he bought 120 acres land, to which he added 40 acres, and where he still lives.

In their marriage they had 11 children, where of three died. The one's living are: Magdaline Rudolphine, born 1872, married to J.J. Hove, business manager for Farmer's State Bank in Hayward, Minnesota; Gulbrand, born 1875. He is very musical, and is the owner of 240 acres land; Gjertrud, born 1882, married Elling Sævre from Sævre, Hallingdal; Marthe, born 1884, trained at Albert Lea Academy; Ragnhild Hilde, born 1885, trained as a stenographer; Karl, born 1888, runs the father's farm; Barbro, born 1890, trained as a teacher; Lars Arthur, born 1892.

Lars Nilsen Lunde has held different trust positions in Hayward. Now that he is aging, he has had to stand down from

Page 582

farming and other business.

The Lunde farm, where Lars Lunde was born and grew up, lies by the north end of Spirillen, and is one of Aadalen's larger farms. North and South Lunde's total area is 17,000 "maal" or about 4250 acres, and is a

forest farm, and timber brings in most of the farm income. The farm has been inhabited by the same family, son after father, from year 1600 to 1850.

“Amt” cashier Chr. Lunde in Kristiania has published a book called “Lundeætten in Aadalen” in which he says that the first one seen named as owner and farmer of the Lunde farm was an Ole. The book’s author also names a Gulbrand Torkelsen Lunde, born around 1585, which he believes is a younger brother of the the above named Ole Lunde. From this Ole Lunde as descendent, the family has spread out, so one branch has in 130 years had its “hjemstavn” in Kristiania. The ancestor of this branch was a Knut Lunde.

Another branch of this family immigrated to America, where it has branched out, and holds a respected position in society as farmers, banker, merchants and teachers.

The author of the book “Lundeætten” cites after Joh. Vibe’s topographical history description of Buskerud’s “Amt” that the natives in Aadalen were to a significant degree “dolikokesaler –

(Note from translator: I’m skipping a bit – Hopeless to translate)

Page 583

Lars Lunde tells that one of the Lunde farmers by name Gulbrand Gulbrandsen was a big hunter and sportsman. He shot 108 bears, and other wild game of all kinds. He was born in 1735, and married Ingeborg Paulsdatter Sømmen and had nine sons. One of these sons was Anders Gulbrandsen, who joined the army, and fought the Svedds in the “birch bark” time.

In his older days he was stricken by Rheumatism, but when he began to talk about the war, and the Norwegian’s bravery, he would straighten his back as a soldier.

Knut Gulbrandsen, who became the founding father to the Lunde family in Kristiania, was the third son on the farm. He left his home hamlet around 1783, and settled in Kristiania, which at that time was a small town with about 9,000 inhabitants, including suburbs. He married there, and became the head of a large family, where of not so few became government officials.

Page 584

This Knut Lunde was believed to be a fine athlete, hunter, fisher, sailor, and rider. He was also strongly built and known for his strength.

Lars Nilsen Lunde has also been a fine marksman and sportsman.

“Hanskjød en mængde fugl i Norge, nemlig tiur, jerpe, aarfugl, ryper”

(wood-grouse, hazel-grouse, “aarfugl” ptarmigan)

The best time of the year to hunt wood-grouse; but the hunter must be up early in the morning, as the grouse does not sleep until the sun comes up. He begins his play at sunrise, so the hunter must be in place by that time.

Lars Lunde tells, that he often shot two or three grouse in a morning. He had also tried hunting reindeer, and shooting bears in the Gudbrandsdal Mountains.

Lars Lunde tells of big storms, which on occasion come down the mountainside on the west side of Spririllen during the summer, so it was danger to one’s life to be out on the fjord in a boat when these storms hit. This happened in 1848 when Ole and Lars Bergsundodden rode “føringer” for Kristoffer Goplerud from Stavlundstøa to Nes. They had fine weather from Kongsstrømen and up the fjord; only a little breeze which filled the little sail they had up.

But coming to Ranberget, a violent storm hit from the mountain. Syver Granli was then at Lunde, and he and Asle (an elder brother of Lars) noticed the boat beginning to go under.

They launched a boat, and tried to come to other's aid; but although they were both strong men, they could do nothing, as the boat was cast ashore again and again. This took place around 12 p.m. So an hour after, his mother went to the "stabbur" and seemed to hear cries of distress out on the fjord. The wind had abated, and Syver Granli and Asle Lunde together with Gulbrand A. Gulbrandsen rowed out to the location, where they found Lars Bergsundodden hanging on two oars unconscious. They hauled him up in the boat, and rowed as fast as they could home, and began to work on his recovery. After about an hour's work, he opened his eyes and mouth and said, "Vi forgaar Ole" and sank into sleep again, but shortly after he became fully conscious and told that no one was aware before the storm hit, and both went under with the boat; but Lars floated up again, and put the oars under his arms to him buoyancy until he was rescued.

Ole was not found again, despite people looking for him for several days. The fjord is very deep where he went under.

Lars Bergsundodden later went to America, and settled by Rock Creek, Mitchell County, Iowa. He married Olea Teigen, a daughter of Ole and Eli Teigen, and fostered a large flock of children, where of one is a merchant in Ossage, Iowa.

Spririllen is capricious with its winds, says Lars Lunde, so it is often difficult for people going to church, as the boats often filled with water, and had to be bailed out continuously.

He remembers one time he was along on the road to Viker Church, when he was surprised by a "Kastevind" which blew in south of Randberget. They got away with the fright, but were soaked to the skin and had to walk on the land road. This was before the church was built at Nes.

Aadalen has fostered several prominent men, where of can be named "tonekunsteren" Gulbrand Paulsen Enger. He went to Kristiania in 1842 "og lot sig hverve til musiken og gjorde sig bekjendt med teatermusiken" and repairing violins. In 1849 he married a foster daughter of Tailor Rosholm. She died in 1852 leaving a son. In 1853 Gulbrand was given a stipend to seek more education, and went to Copenhagen, where he worked with an instrument maker Jacobsen to make violins, for which he won first prize in Kristiania and London.

This gave him a prominent position in society, so he had continuous work with his master.

Then Jacobsen died of Cholera, and Gulbrand was appointed master. About a year later he married again to the widow after Jacobsen, with whom he had two sons and a daughter. His violins rose to a high price, and he became a wealthy man. He died in 1876.

Peter H. Berg was born in Kilebakken in Heraldsbygden, Ringerike on March 9th, 1829, of parents Hans Berg and wife Kjersti Haraldsdatter. He learned the shoemaker trade, and worked at this as long as he was in Norway. In 1853 he married Voel Ambrosiusdatter. They had five children together, namely Karl Halfdan, Anne Mathea, Berthe Helena, Mrs. O. Johnson in Minneapolis, Karen, Mrs. Lars Larsen, Turner, Oregon; and stepson Ambrosius Anderson.

In 1868 his wife Voel Berg received a small inheritance from a deceased uncle for 163 "speciedaler" with this small inheritance the thought arose about immigrating to America, but there was not enough money to take the whole family at once, so they decided that Berg should travel alone in spring 1869.

But then Ambrosius loaned money for his ticket on the condition that he would pay the money back as soon as he could, which he also did. In the spring on March 24th Peter H. Berg and Ambrosius Anderson traveled by steamer from Kristiania, and landed in New York on April 12th.

Page 587

After a slow passage, they arrived in Lacrosse, which was their destination, on April 20th, 1869. On arrival in Lacrosse, they were broke, and stood there without a cent in their pocket; but then Ambrosius was fortunate to find work in a shoemaker shop for 16 dollars per month and food. Berg was able to loan money. So he could continue his trip on the railway to Rushford, and later up to Highland Prairie, where he had relatives. After six months work, Ambrosius could pay the money back for his ticket, which came up to 73 dollars American. There was no silver money to be found in those days, and paper money was worth 75 cents per dollar.

In the spring 1870 Berg sent tickets to his wife and three daughters, but they had to go by sail vessel.

In July the same year, Voel Berg and the three girls came to Lacrosse, where Ambrosius still worked, and he went with them up to Highland Prairie to P. H. Berg. The year after (1871) Berg and Ambrosius together sent tickets to Karl H. Berg, who came to America the same year.

In 1873 Berg took homestead land near Whalen, Fillmore County, Minnesota, and lived there for several years, working hard to clear off and build a home; but sold the farm and moved to Lake Preston, South Dakota where he began a shoe store, which he operated for many years. He then sold the business and moved to his daughter Anne Mathea, now Mrs. B. Sotbakken, near Lake Preston, where he died on January 27th, 1917 near age 88. His wife, Voel Berg, died February 26th, 1908 at age 91. Peter H. Berg belonged to Pastor Kristian Magelsen's congregation while they lived in Fillmore County, and then joined the Norwegian-Lutheran congregation in Lake Preston, to which they belonged until the end of their lives.

Page 588

Pastor Alfred O. Jonkalsrud was born on January 22nd, 1874 by Montevideo, Minnesota of parents Ole A. Jonkalsrud and wife Mina. His father was born on the Jonkalsrud farm, Soknedalen, Ringerike in 1854, and his mother came from Hamserud, born 1845. They immigrated to America, and settled by Montevideo, Minnesota where he farmed for many years; but now lives in Montevideo.

Their children are: Alfred, pastor. Now has worked as such for ten years in Fargo, North Dakota. Now, in the last eight years, he is the manager and pastor for the Norwegian Lutheran Hospital in Brooklyn, New York.

His siblings are: Alfred, educated as pastor, and worked as such for 10 years in Fargo, North Dakota. At present the last eight years as manager and pastor at the Norwegian Lutheran deacon home and hospital in Brooklyn, New York.

His siblings are: Mrs. Marie Jacobsen, living in Montevideo, Minnesota; Emil and Anton live in Great Falls, Montana. Pastor A.O. Jonkalsrud married Anna, born Norby. Her parents were Sven and Ingrid Norby living at Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin where she was born in 1877. They have one child, Leslie Owen, born 1905 in Fargo. His wife's siblings are: G.A. Norby, living in Miles City, Montana, and Herman, living in Norwalk, Ohio. Nils H. Solie was born on August 20, 1887 near Ask, Ringerike, of parents Halvor Olsen Solie and wife Inger Aslesdatter, born on the Kittelsby farm. Of his father's siblings, who immigrated to America, is Torger, Hans and Lars. Torger Solie came to Highland Prairie many years ago, and lived there until his death.

One son after him by name Carl Solie, lived in Spring Grove. Hans and Lars came to Rock River. Both are now deceased.

Nils Solie emigrated in 1910, and came first to Lanesboro, Minnesota, but moved later to Spring Grove, where he has built a fine house, and where he now lives. He is a painter by profession. In 1913 he married Lina Kristiansdatter. She was born near Follums Bruk, Hønefoss. They have one child by name Inger.

The Ask farm, from which this area so many

Page 589

fine men and women have immigrated to America, was in the Middle Ages the Seat of a Mighty Chieftain. History tells of Ingemar Svensen Ask, who was sheriff under Kings Eystein and Sigurd Jorsalfar. He is spoken of as one of that era's mightiest "Lendemænd". In a battle that Ingemar had with an Icelander, he came into difficulty with the king, and had to flee to Denmark, where he stayed until both of the king's brothers were dead.

It is told in Norwegian history, that while Sigurd Jorsalfar governed the land, a man came from Ireland, who called himself Harald Gille, and said he was son of King Magnus Barfod, and therefore entitled to inheritance in Norway. In order to prove his inheritance, he was willing to take "jernbyrden" which was to walk barefooted on glowing iron. This miracle, which the catholic bishops had institutioned, was to walk over glowing hot iron without being burned, was done by Harald Gille. It is told that he walked on nine glowing flow irons with his bare feet escorted by two bishops who led him. Three days after he was investigated as to what effect the glowing iron had on his bare feet, and nothing was found to indicate that they had been burned. These ambitious, power seeking and money hungry bishops were to use some kind of salve which they rubbed on the individual, who was to walk on the glowing iron, to protect his hands and feet.

With the aid of the bishops, he was given his inheritance, but did not get any part in governing as long as Sigurd was still alive. After King Sigurd's death, his son Magnus became King, "og skjønt Harald Gille med ed hadde bekræftet ikke at kræve kongedømmet saa længe Magnus Sigurdsen levede, saa brød han dog denne ed ved sin smiger og gylne løfter, der gjorde han till en ven af mange stormænd, saa han blev taget till konge over det halve land."

Page 590

Meanwhile Ingemar Svensen from Ask had returned from Denmark, and joined with Harald Gille, and became his feudatory. But the kings could not come to agreement. They stole born people and livestock from each other, so it came to a battle between them on August 10th, 1134.

The battle was joined by Fyreliv, Bohuslæn, Ranrike, where Ingemar from Ask fell, and many prominent men with him. At his death he sang this "Hjertesukk"

"Trollpak mig egget hid til Fyreliv aldrig jeg villig var til striden, mig pilene bed fra buen den seige, aldrig jeg monne til Ask mere komme"

Of Harald Gille it is mentioned that he lost the battle at Fyreliv, and fled to Denmark from where after a time came back to Norway with an army, together with farmers and "Lendemænd" in Norway won over King Magnus and imprisoned him. On the command of Harald Gille and his advisors, King Magnus was handed over to Harald's slaves to be molested. They stabbed out both his eyes, and cut off his one foot, and therefore in history he has been called "Magnus Blinde".

From the old chieftain seat Ask came one of the largest farms in Buskerud's parish. Nothing is heard of who owned it, or lived there before 1816. Then the farm was bought by Jens Gram, who was county justice in Ringerike.

This Jens Gram was born in Copenhagen on February 12th, 1780, and son of Accessor in Akershus parish supreme court. He came to Norderhov in 1810, and became assistant district judge with the old judge for Ringerike and Hallingdal's district, and later became judge in 1815. He married Reinholdinde, a daughter of Justice Peter Georg Bull and wife, born Thorup.

Jens Gram was noted to be a prominent person, who was given much honor in the short period he worked. In 1818 he was elected to the Storting, and

Page 591

re-elected. In these difficult "storting" such as dealing with Denmark, in managing Norway's difficult financial position after the bloody wars, he had a prominent place. He died in 1823 at age 44. His widow, who was born in 1779, lived at Ask until 1859. The widow's eldest son Johan Georg Voll, Gram, who was born September 21st, 1809, inherited the farm after she had run it for a few years.

He became also a prominent person, especially as a military man, as he was promoted time and time again, so he became general-major. He also built a fine house at Ask, which in its still resembled a castle, and was called Ask Castle. He died on July 8th, 1873. His widow Fredrikke Gram, born December 8th, 1811, lived at Ask Castle until 1896. After her death Gram's inheritors sold part of the farm to a number of farmers in Ringerike. In 1902 these farmers sold the farm to John T. Odegaard, and in 1910 it was taken over by his son T. Odegaard. Now last winter T. Odegaard sold the Ask goods to State Engineer Bile from Horten for a million "kroner". General-major Johan Gram became a famous wild animal hunter. His cofters, servant boys and workers he had organized into some kind of corps for the suitable times to use them in the hunts service.

Lars Badrættet, the old blacksmith at Ask, who some still remember, was one of Gram's hunters, and could tell many funny tales from those days among other at Gram, and his hunters shot a bear in Stubdal, put it on a sled and drove by the colonel so he could greet the bear, and when the colonel took the bear claw, all the Gram hunters fired off their muskets on command by Kalsrud.

The "stabbur" wall at Ask was at that time having been decorated with bear skulls, wolves, and lynx.

Page 592

Johan Gram together with some farmers in Soknedal also tried to husband reindeer in the mountain between Soknedalen and Aadalen. Some reindeer were bought and driven there.

A dwelling for the goat herder was built by the southern end of Ulvandet, which people called Rensberg. A man in Soknedalen was hired to watch over this reindeer flock, but it went with this guardian "som de der skulde gjæte kongen's harer".

The reindeer fled back to the area they came from, so Gram and the farmers had difficulty finding another goat herder to watch over these animals. This same Gram also worked in an extensive forest and wood business over Ringerike, Valdres and Land. He was also joint owner in a large "gods" which he bought in Sweden, to which a large group of workers from Soknedalen and Aadalen went to have steady work year round. Some of these who moved to Sweden then, stayed there but most of them left either back to their home land, and some to America.

But this daring man was not alone a hunter, farmer and a military of high rank, but he was also interested in preserving Old Norse remains, and excavated several grave mounds over Ringerike. According to legend King Ring was to have lived on the Reien farm, which then was named Streituland when he died, he was buried in a mound on his farm, along with his goods. People then meant that this King Ring's grave mound held different valuables; but the fear of invisible spirits held watch over these burial places, who gold and silver was buried in such multitudes, that they did not dare touch them. Sheriff Wiel tells in his description over Ringerike, that in 1743 there was a man on Reien farm who started to dig out this mound, but the same day three of the man's sheep were killed by wild animals, so his wife came out and insisted that the man should not dig anymore.

This fear of disturbing these holy places held for a long period in the previous

Page 593

century, and it was without fear that a great accident might occur, when they saw Leetenand Gram at the end of the 1850s came with people and tools to investigate this king grave.

However, nothing untoward did occur, and Gram found there among other items the largest gold ring, which is now displayed at the Kristiania Museum. Much superstition is also attached to a fir tree on the Reien farm, so if this holy tree was cut down, all the houses would burn down, and other accidents would strike the habitants.

A few years ago the fir tree fell down without any accidents having occurred there, and the grave mounds have been investigated without any of these invisible powers come with their punishment

(to be continued)

The Bugge Family

T. O. Roble

The Bugge family was in its time one of the most prominent and mightiest families in Denmark. The name appears already in the earliest saga period. As such in "Frode Fredgodes" and in "Fridleif Hinrakes" "sagnkredse" is the name Bugge. The folk ditty mentions also a Turid Bugge "hinskattedekoning" who was to have lived in Jylland. From these apparently the present Bugge family descends, according to the Danish historian Klevenfeldt. Since around the year 1300 the family can be traced down to our time. Knight and "Riggraad" (deceased 1395), Nils Bugge lived in the most dismal time Denmark has had. As a later "slektstavle" will show, he is called Nils Ebbeson. Royal power had lost its power from Waldermanernes times. The population suffered under the continuous war, lawlessness "og stormandenes utagering."

Page 594

Then a party was formed with the objective of placing Prince Waldemar of Søndre Jylland on Denmark's throne, and creating a strong royal power. To this party Niels's father, Bugge Nielson, belonged, but after his death, the power hungry and ambitious counts of Holstien the party's leader. Niels Bugge was with him, but his sister's son Niels Ebbeson was the counts committed enemy.

"Snart stod hestehoven frem hos greven" and it was shown that he alone wished to acquire the whole land, and then Bugge fell from the party. Niels Ebbeson was then the one that held power. And by a quick deed he felled the count, first with success in the war against his sons, and became Denmark's national hero. So came Waldemar Atterdag to power, but Niels did not wish to join him before Prince Waldemar

of Søndre Jylland had given up power. He then arranged peace with Waldemar Atterdag and Norway and Sweden. He was one of the chieftains at Mechlenburg and Brandenburg (1349-50).

Later he had to join a riot toward the king, who was accused of imposing unreasonable taxes, and misuse of the king and his party. Niels became the party's leader, "og in tok" several of the king's palaces, and the king lay siege on his "herregard" "hald".

Then they came to agreement in 1353, but the king did not hold to the agreement, and the battle continued, and which spread over all of Denmark.

In the town of Slagelse, after several battles, they tried to come to agreement; but on the way back to Middelfart by Skanderborg, Niels Bugge was killed in 1359.

There was sorrow all over the land, and public opinion demanded that the king had to make peace with Niels's sons, and Middelfart had to each year pay a fine which remained until 1847 countless folk ditties about Niels Bugge

Page 595

honor him as the people's guardian and friend.

Beside his fine "herregard" "Hald", he owned Rasborg, Estrup, Spøstrup, Lundholmen, Staaringsgaard, Rolstrup and others.

He was at certain times granted large parts of land, and to folk ditty often calls him "Kong Bugge".

He married a second time to Ingeborg Bendelbo, a relative of Archbishop Absalon. The farm Hald was inherited by his son Jep, and of brother Mikkel, and finally to the youngest brother Knut. Knut's son Jep inherited the riches, which were taken from him by Margreta.

His son John was married to a prominent lady. John had an only son Lars, but he lost his fortune in a case with his family of the Flemming famiy; as his mother was of civil family, and he became therefore a farmer in Ture in 1460.

From him descends many by the name Bugge. His son Hans had many sons. Four of those came to Norway as pastors and sheriffs. The son Mikkel on the other hand became a farmer in Ture. His sons came to Norway as pastors. Lars to Sandefjord and Kristen to Lærdal, Jarlsberg and Laurvik 1603-48. His son Lars (Laurits) was well educated, and a capable man, who became pastor in Slidre and "prost" in Valdres and Hallingdal, gave "alterkalken" to Hegge church, and died in 1689. His son Søren Bugge was the father of Bishop Peder Olivarius Bugge in Trondhjem, deceased 1849.

Lars's brother Jens, deceased 1671, was first "rektor" at Tønsberg School and chaplain in Ramsnes in 1642, and pastor in 1650.

He was very well liked, and participated in a large pastor meeting in Skien on May 5th, 1662, and became pastor in Oslo in 1663. He had seven children. His daughter Hilleborg came to her brother Lars in Slidre, and married his "estermænd" Kristen Quisling, deceased

Page 596

1724, who was the son of palace pastor at Akershus, Lars Ibsen Quisling and Else Kristiansdatter.

L. J. Quisling was of Danish farm decent, but became of U. J. Gylden Løve called to chaplain. L. J. O. died in 1700, and sons Lars and Kristen became pastors; daughter Rebekka married Witthagen, bishop in Viborg. Daughter Sara married Henrik Opdal, pastor to Hole and Ringerike, and Anna to master of arts rock. Kristen Larson Quisling, pastor in Slidre until 1724, had the following children: Rebekka, married to Syver Larson Ulvstad; Nils, married to Rangdi Halvardsdatter Quisling, farmer in Løken, Østre Slidre,

married Kari Olsdatter, and from them descends nearly half the population in Rogne, and many in Balbo and Hegge, and even Vestre Slidre and Vang. They had seven children. Ole born October 8th, 1727, farmer at Løken, no children. Kristen, born December 19th, 1728 by accidental rifle shot at his sister's wedding. Anne, born 1730. Jørgen, born April 6th, 1732, came to Haukhovd. His descendants are found in Roble, Paulsrud, Bærum, Raubrøt and other places. Hilleborg, born June 13th, 1734, married Knut Kristensen Rudi to Nordre Rogne. Eli has descendants in Rudi, Rødningen, Løken and several other places. Jens, born 1739. Hilleborg's children are five. Kristen K. Rogne, married to Ragnhild O. Melby, has his descendants at Nordre Rogne, Kolstad, Eikrem, Vang, Okshovd and several other places. The other of the five children are Lars Berge, Syver Hovimarken, Astrid Gladheim and Kari Liekeren.

Kristen K. Rogne married a second time to Ragnhild Mikkelsdatter Kolstad, from the old Kolstad family, and had four children. One of their children was Ole Svensen Hegge, and his children Sven, Sexton and school teacher Ole and

Page 597

Halvar. Ragnhild, married to Gullik Nordtorp, as mentioned.

The other of K. K. Rogne's and Ragnhild's children is my grandfather, Mikkil K. Rogne (Marken), deceased June 16th, 1867, at age 75, married to Guri T. Prestehogge, deceased July 21st, 1879 at age 80. They had eight children: Kristen had six children, where of I mentioned Guri Melby in the previous number, and most of her descendants, which now soon will reach 100. Ragnhild, who was married to Eivind paa Skoge, and drowned in Volbufjorden, was the grandmother to fifteen children, where of Torstein Rudi, teacher and vice-chairman in Land, in one, and Eivind Rudi a second. Then there is Torstein (i Grindeplassen) Rogne, with at least eleven children, where of one is Pastor E. T. Rogne, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Marit Jørstad (Jælo) had seven children, where of I have mentioned before Ragnhild Gullikson (Okshovd). Then there is (Veslø) Marit Rudi (Dokken). I remember four of her children. Gudbrand is in Decorah, and the only one living of Mikkil's children. Knut, the youngest, was married to Skreobraaten, and they have one child.

Guri, born 1834, died 1905, was the next youngest of Mikkil's children, and was married to Ole J. Roble. They had eight children, where of only Torleif, Kristian and I still live. A third of K. K. Rogne and Ragnhild's children are Astrid, married to Ole J. Kvale.

Their son John married Kari Røshaugen. The last child is Trond, married to Ingeborg O. Prestrud. Their children are probably in America. From Lars Berge descends families at Bolstad, Kolstad, Berge and more. Why the name Bugge does not appear in Valdres is because they always took the farm name where the man came from. Even workers changed names when they changed employers.

Accordingly follows a "slekt's tavle" of the Bugge family as far back as I am able. It is the truhe was a said: "Stor arv de er fyr mannen af godtfolk være fød"

Darwin also studied family relationships, and discovered that the frog was "tip-tip-tip-oldefar" to the human race, and gorillas were "the great-grandfather to the first man"

I will take as said not more of the Bugge other than they came to Østre Slidre, and there again I must leave certain branches.

Page 598

"Ettetavle – Buggeslegten"

I) Nils Bugge

- II) Ebbe; Bugge Nilsen, "Ridder" (Knight) killed at Lyberg Church; Bege Bugge
- III) Niels Bugge (Ebbesen) deceased 1359; Nil, Jep; Mikkel; Bernt; Knut Bugge, Riksråd 1350
- IV) Jep Bugge 1380; Mikkel; Knut
- V) John Bugge, Weaponsman 1411
- VI) Lars Bugge, farmer in Ture 1460-80
- VII) Hans Bugge, farmer in Ture
- VIII) Jens (1592 – 1612) "prost" at Hedemark; Mogens, bailiff in Morland; Mikkel, farmer in Ture; Nil, parish pastor to Etne
- IX) Kristian Bugge, pastor to Lærdal, Jarlsberg and Larvik 1603 – 1645; Lars Bugge, pastor to Sandefjord
- X) Jens Bugge, born 1609, died 1671, pastor in Oslo; Larits Bugge, died 1687, pastor in Slidre, "gav kalcken til Hegge". (His son was Søren Bugge; grandson was Bishop Peder Olivius Bugge, Trondhjem deceased 1849)

Page 599

- XI) Rebekka, married Syver Larsen Alvstad; Lars Bugge Quisling, married to Kari Olsdatter (farmer in Løken); Nils married Rangdi Halvardsdatter
- XII)
- XIII) Ole, born 1727; Kristen, born 1728; Anne, born 1730; Jørgen, born 1732; Hilleborg, married Knut K. (born Rudi) Rogne; Eli; Jens
- XIV) Kari Liakeren; Astrid Gladheim; Syver Hovimarken; Lars Berge; Kristen Rogne (1), married Ragnhild O. Melby; their relatives at Rogne, Eikren, Kolstad, Liakeren, Holien and Okshovd (2) married to Ragnhild Mikkelsdatter, Kolstad
- XV) Ragnhild Hegge (her son Ole Svensen had four children); Mikkel Rogne; Astrid Kvale; Trond Prestrud (Rogne)
- XVI) Kristen, six children; Ragnhild, one child; Torstein, eleven children; Marit, seven children; Marit, four children; Guri; Gulbrand; Knut, one child
- XVII) T. O. Roble; Christ Roble; Torleif Roble
- XVIII) Olaf; Mary; Gina; Anders; Melvin

Page 600

"Valdriser in Pope County"

V.

Now I have been lazy for a long period, so it is time to wake up again.

It is not only my fault that I have been slow in writing, as for a lengthy period I have waited to have something or someone to write about, as I have spoken with, and asked many Valdriser to send me a short summary of themselves or their nearest kin. This they have all promised to do, but I have not had the honor of hearing from a single one of them. They must either be reserved, or they do not care to see or hear about themselves.

"Ja, lad det nu være hvad det vil; jeg gir mig ikke dermed; de skal nok i heisen alle sammen før jeg gir opp"

"Nils Aslagsen Bøe"

Nils lives in the town of Rolling Forks, where he is a farmer. He was born on June 4th, 1852 at Kværnmoen, Nord Aurdal, Valdres, of parents Aslag Olsen Bøe, and wife Marie Olsdatter, who moved early to Jaarsødegaarden, Nord Aurdal, as this was a better place for him and his family, as Aslag was at the time the controller of alcohol in the hamlet. There Aslag's wife Maria died, leaving her husband, four sons, Ole, Nils, Andreas and Per, and two daughters, Marthe and Guri. In the spring 1864, Aslag with some of the children immigrated to America, and came to LaCrosse County, Wisconsin. In the spring 1868 they moved to Gilchrist, Pope County, to his cousin Ole Pedersen (Ola paa Hauge) who at that time was a well-known and respected man. Here Nils began to work on the farm and work as a farmer, violin player and hunter for a longer period, both in Minnesota and North Dakota.

I was a small boy at that time, but I remember well how "spræk" he was. When he took "Ryggetak" with others, Nils always came out on top. I also remember an early morning in the fall, he walked out, and came back in again, and took his rifle, and took aim on a deer at a far distance, and fell it while it ran at a good speed. Nils then threw the deer over shoulder, and carried it home to us, as he was living with us at that time.

Nils married Kaisa Paulson (Swedish), and they together had fourteen children, where of two are deceased.

On February 16th, 1913, his wife died, leaving her husband and 13 children, namely Tilda, now in Minneapolis, Alfred in North Dakota, Reno in North Minnesota, Minnie, now deceased, Ella in Cass Lake, now in Minneapolis, Clara in Glenwood, Guy in Germantown, Minnesota, Nellie in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Elwin in Rolling Forks, Inez in Minneapolis, Ernst in Cass Lake, Ester in Benson. Nils still lives on the farm.

Page 601

Nils siblings are Ole A. Bøe, Lake Park, Minnesota; Andreas A. Bøe, Fingal, North Dakota; Peder A. Bøe, Terrace, Minnesota; Guri, Mrs. Jørgensen, Vail, Iowa; and Marthe, Mrs. Jens N. Dahly, deceased March 8th, 1917.

Nils is, despite all the hard work he has done, still cheerful and plays the violin very well. I remember he was in early days called "Morosam Gut'n" and "Nils Morosam", which name suited him well.

Nils A. Benson, born November 7th, 1872 in Nord Aurdal, Valdres, of parents Arne Bjørnsen Saang and wife Maria Nilsdatter Lien, who with his parents came to America in the spring, 1876 direct from Langhei, where his father took homestead.

Nils was confirmed in Vestre Zion's Church of pastor Chr. Pedersen on October 24th, 1886, and then went two winters to school in Willmar, Minnesota, where he gave notice as a very capable boy. He was married on November 21st, 1900 to Anne Amundsen, with whom he had two children, where of one died at age four months; the other son Melvin is at home. On June 16th, 1904, his wife died. Nils remarried on December 6th, 1906 to Guri Espelien, daughter of Ole O. Espelien, Nord Aurdal. Nils and Guri have had five children, where of two are deceased. Nils is a farmer, and has two farms with together 340 acres very good land.

Page 602

Beside this work on the farm, he also finds time to get engaged in political, social and church life, and as such hold several positions of trust. He is and has been school cashier for his school district, where he lives, for about twenty years; assessor for ten years; supervisor in town for one term; justice of the peace for fifteen years. Nils and wife are friendly people, and well regarded as good neighbors.

(more)
E. J. Dahly

“Møllargutten”

B. L. Wick

How many out here in “Vesterheimen” have heard of Møllargutten, the Telemark genius up in Telemark, who could play his Hardanger Violin so people laughed and cried, all according to how he used his fingers. He was well known all over the Scandinavian lands. Recently I had a Telemarking come to visit, Aslag Nerisen, born in Rauland, and we spoke of Møllargutten, as I just then had been reading Rikard Berge’s work about Møllaren. The old man began to tell jokes, soon one, soon another about this violinist. He had heard him so many times, as Aslag was working as the sheriff in Rauland, and there came Møllargutten often. But when he was there, not much work was done, he said, as all wanted to hear Møllaren play, of course.

I wanted to question what kind of music it was, that gripped all, both old and young, both learned and unlearned. The old man said: “You see? Møllaren did not play as others. Soon came to tears, soon there was joy they heard from the violin.

Page 603

Torger was son of a crofter, Ougen Torgerson, and was born in Telemark in 1801. It was supposed to be Nesherad, but he came to travel around nearly all Telemark; as we find him in Seljord, in Aamotdalen, and on Rauland. He married and had several children, but no violin player as the father. Aslak told that at age nine, Møllaren came to work as a sheep herder, but his violin he always had along. Aslag also told that even if Møllaren earned good money, it just went again. He lived in a humble dwelling, and from hand to mouth most of his life.

Møllaren was not a worker, “Heller ingen Styrer”, and what he saved went on to something and then on something else. He also drank, as did everyone else at that time, Aslak added, “Saa de va no inkje nogen synd hel skam den tia” (which was not a shame at that time).

He went from one farmer’s wedding to another for weeks, “og ingen kanskje var edru mens bryllupet stod, ti hvis de det var saa hadde folk for ordtak,” that the bride’s folk were “too careful with the wet stuff”. The master of ceremony was the one that did not hold back on the drink, but saw to that all had enough to drink and eat on such an occasion.

If one so had to save for the rest of one’s life to pay for the wedding, one felt that one did not marry every day. When a person like Møllaren could hold on from wedding to wedding for several weeks, it was not to wonder that he came adrift, and in his younger years lost “baade kunst og helse.”

Page 604

Already at age thirty Torger began to be known as a good violin player. One time he had gone down to Kongsberg market, and was noticed for his playing. Then he went west over Haukelidfjeldet, down Voss and Hardanger, and competed with the fiddlers in these areas. In this way he learned from others, and they learned from him.

It was in the summer 1831 that Møllaren met Ole Bull in Bergen. Bull now heard the Hardanger violin, and to stop over and see and listen to them play. Several years past in which he only played for his wife and children, and worked now and then, as the family lived in narrow circumstances. In January 1849 he came to Kristiania. Whether it now was Bull who had all these years remembered him, or whether it was Kjerulf’s song about Møllaren, is not known. Enough it is, that old Aslag Vinje, who I spoke with a few

years before his death in 1907, was along on this trip to get Møllaren along to the capital. With Bull's help he was given a good house, and all went as one had thought. "Hovedstadbefolkningen tok nu spillet som alt andet, paa andres oppraab." They wrote poems about him. Money rolled in, and Møllaren now thought "at han hadde fundet sig selv i slik arbeide".

Page 605

Now he traveled often outside his own hamlet from time to time, for now since Ole Bull put his stamp on him, the man was probably the best known Hardanger violin player in Norway's valleys. Møllaren came to Bergen in the winter 1850, and Bull wanted this time to have him along to foreign countries. But Møllaren considered that "han maatte no heimatt me korn te kjerringa, han" og saaledes blev Bull's opade fuld plan styrtet til grunde" Later in the spring Torger came to Stavanger and played around the coast to Skien. In 1854 he went to Trondhjem. He had a large group along: son Augén, Knut Rensvik, his wife's brother, and had the name Trefoten. But as they all liked the bottle, this trip did not bring in much money. In 1858 Torger was out again, this time with his wife, who was to dance for the city folk. This trip as well did not bring in much money. "Men det var saa, at Lysten steg og Møllaren maatte langt, langt bort", and so took a trip down to Denmark and Sweden, but these people did not understand Norwegian folk music. With the money which Møllaren had earned in Kristiania on the first "spillefærd", he bought a farm, Øigarden at Rauland, of there Øigarden, in 1852. This fellow had bought it of Lauritz and Olav Øigarden, who had headed off across the Atlantic shortly before, and was some of the first from there to travel to America. Møllargutten was no farmer, nor was he a finance man. "Poor he was when he came into the world, and poor he was when he left the world," old Aslag Vinje told me one warm summer day in 1903.

Page 606

Torger returned home in 1872, and was buried in his place of birth. Først in 1900 was a monument placed on the grave.

"Han vandret om i dal og paa fjell og lyttet til fossens dur. Til nykkespillet i sene kvæld og Huldras lokkende lur og al den huldrene lokkende sang, der flumret i fjeld og ur, han vakte til live i sin feles klang et barn av sit lands natur"

So one reads about this man, this genius, who could only one thing, that was to play. He seemed to conjure tones from nature and folk life, by the waterfall's roar, soon with the ring of bells." Det var geniet som kunde fæste harmoni til alt dette, og er ikke som malerens, som lever efter ham.

Translator Note: This was a real bummer to translate – booring! I have not translated "Ringerikelagets Aarsmøte" page 607 "Till Ringerikelagets medlemmer" page 611, 612, 613, onward. I'll pick up the rest on page 619 "Numedalslagets Aarsmøte"

Page 623

"Herbert H. Strøm"

The newspapers brought the not unexpected word that Hon. H. H. Strøm had passed away at his home near Hillsboro, North Dakota on June 8th, 1917. Mr. Strøm has himself given a description of his life's saga in "Samand", page 600 osv of number 100 for August 1916, in his articles about Tunhovdinger; and gave the same description as detailed in his issue of the same article printed in Fargo this spring.

Strøm was born at Straumann or Stømmene in Tunhovd, Numedal on January 27th, 1846, and at age 22 came to America, and settled at first in Clayton County, Iowa, where he married Guri Halvorsdatter Brevik, from his home "Bygd", and in 1878 moved to Trail County, North Dakota, where he took homestead land, and lived there until his death. His wife and five children survive him.

He was prominent as a farmer, businessman, politician and church man. We will here especially remember his work in the "bygdelag" movement. Since Numedalslagets establishment in 1908, whose founder he should by right be called, he has been its well-regarded chairman. As such he has given much time and thought and work as the "lags" leader, and contributed as much as anyone to Numedalslaget becoming one of the strongest "Bygdelags".

The "lags" convention in Fargo on the 20th of June also honored his memory in a way that shows how his "sambygninger" cherished and respected his leadership.

But Strøm was not only interested in his own "lag". He was especially prominent among those who worked for a good understanding between the different "lags". Strøm was one of "Samband's" best supporters, and contributed often to its content. The last contribution he delivered was descriptions of Tunhovd families last year. We honor his cherished memory of this dear friend.

Page 624

Nils O. Holdahl died in his home in Ellsworth, Wisconsin on May 28th, 1917, and was buried by Ellsworth May 30th. He was born in Skrautvaal, Valdres January 16th, 1846.

And came to Manitowoc, Wisconsin in 1868. He bought a farm by Ellsworth in 1879, and married Andrea Nilson in 1883. She survives him, together with their four children Oluf, Stina, Nora and Agnes. His brother Søren O. Holdahl and sister Sigrid Skrutvold live by Beldenville, Wisconsin. Brother Ole Holdahl lives by Maddock, and another sister, Barbro Bratvold lives in Pope County, Minnesota, and a third sister, Anne Jodnes, lives in Norway.

625)

"Peter Thompson"

On Friday May 11th, 1917, Peter Thompson died at age 81 in his home in Dakota County, Minnesota, and was buried under a large participation burial at Christiania Cemetery, a short distance from his home. He was in poor health at the end, but not bedridden, and he was up and around until the afternoon of his next day. However, the end came peacefully. Peter Thompson's original Norwegian name was Peder Thomassen Tørstad, born in Hurum, Vang i Valdres. We published in "Samband" in the November issue last year a description of his life and experiences, so we refer to the same.

Page 626

"J. J. Lomen"

Jørgen J. Lomen died at St. Paul Hospital on July 9th after having been ill for several years. Lomen was one of our well known men, who for a lengthy period had been active in Minnesota politics, and was for many years the state's assistant secretary of state. His father was Jørgen Gulbrandsen Lomen from Valdres and his mother was Elisabeth Brandt, a sister of old pastor Nils Brandt. The deceased was born on his father's farm in Winnechief County, Iowa in 1856. He graduated from Luther College in 1878, and studied a year at Iowa University in Iowa City, and worked as a teacher for a period in Norman County, Minnesota. Later he became Clerk of Court and later, in 1891, he came to St. Paul as Chief Clerk in the State Secretary office, and became Assistant Secretary. This office he had to lay down due to illness causing his death. Lomen

was married to Miss Augusta Eriksen, who died twenty years ago. Lomen's surviving children are son Ernst Lomen, Lewiston, Montana, and daughter Ruth, Mrs. S. O. Koefod, Baudette, Minnesota. He also leaves two brothers, Consul G. J. Lomen, Nome, Alaska, and Ole Lomen, Foston, Minnesota.

Jørgen Lomen was among the Valdreser to attend the first Valdres Rally in Minneapolis in 1899, and had a strong interest in "Valdres Samband" right up until his end. Even at the end of his life, and no longer able to read, "Samband" was read to him each month on arrival.

"Two Yearbooks"

Gudbrandsdal Laget's yearbooks number 5 and 6 is a work on 128 pages in the same format as the earlier numbers of the same "lags" yearbook. One is certain to recommend this book, which it deserves in full measure.

Page 627

There are the usual reports from annual conventions, from 1915 and 1916. Forty-two pages are taken up at the large membership lists of over 2,000 names, addresses, and where the person came from, is related to. Most of the contents are directed to hamlets in Gudbrandsdal, especially the churches, and in the texts is spread a mass good pictures.

Yearbook number 3 for Numedalslaget for 1917, is a volume of 112 pages, very nice and tastefully put together, in the same style as this "lag" yearbooks 1 and 2. The book has much in it of Old Numedal, of farms and churches, with illustrations, but it can be said to have most of personal descriptions and families, both in the home hamlets and here, and it is in this regard valuable and timely.

Numedals lagets yearbook summary of contents something that certain other "lags" should emanate. It is in particular Gudbrandsdal "lagets" chairman, Pastor Thor Kvien, and Secretary Enestvedt from Numedalslaget, who deserve thanks for this work. Yearbook and membership in Numedalslaget cost 75 cents.

Page 628

"A Norwegian "bygds" History"

XV by Olav Redal

Henry Hype was born in Valdres in 1849 of parents Ole Olsen Hype and wife Ingeborg Henriksdatter, both deceased in Valdres. Hype emigrated 46 years ago, and came to Bottineau about eight years ago. So forty years ago he married Marit Nilsdatter Vik, from Slidre, Valdres.

Their children: Nils Hype, Souris, Businessman Ole, deceased; Inga, Souris; Emma, Mrs. Johes Antler. One sister of Mrs. H. Hype lives as a widow in Glenwood, Minnesota.

T. J. Berge was born at Børseskogen by Trondhjem 1873 of parents John Berg and wife Rebekka Heggum from Sparbu. Berg emigrated in 1884 together with his mother. The father emigrated in 1882. They settled in Hendrum, Minnesota, where the father still lives. The mother died in 1895. Berg has for many years worked as a carpenter from the fall 1909 to 1912 he proved up land in Montana, and later worked by Souris and several other places in the county.

His siblings are: O. A. Berg, Hendrum, Minnesota and Anders Strand, Hendrum, Minnesota. Marit died in 1889. Carl Berg, San Francisco, California; Anne lives in Norway.

Peder P. Moe was born in Meraver, Nordre Trondhjems parish of parents Peder Moe and wife Anna Staaløien. Peder emigrated in 1883 and stayed at first in Todd County, Minnesota and came to Bottineau County in 1901.

The same year he took homestead in Turtle Mountains. Later he sold the land, and lives in Peabody Township south of Souris. Moe married Amanda Nelsen in 1897. Their children are: Almer, Herbert and Hanna. Moe's siblings are Peter, Bernhard, and Olaf, all in Bottineau County. Hanna is deceased.

Wil. Groth was born in 1875 in Otter Tail County, Minnesota, of parents Benj. Groth and wife Karoline. They came from Vermland, Sweden in 1867. Wil. Groth took homestead land in Northern Minnesota in 1905, and in 1914 came to Bottineau County, where he has worked with John Elton. He is single. Siblings: Ida Groth, Otter Tail County, and Efraim, Otter Tail County.

N. J. Johnson was born in Vermeland, Sweden in 1864, and came to America in 1890, where he stayed in Grant County, Minnesota until 1895, when he came here. He took homestead in Dalen, which he sold and bought land in Haram. This land he has now sold to Matt Skarphol. Johnson married in 1892 to Anna Gustafson. Their children are: Mrs. E. Backman, Souris; Mrs. Otto Walberg, Souris, and Herman.

Johnson's siblings: Gustav Johnson, Souris; Alfred Johnson, Williams County, North Dakota. Mrs. Johnson's siblings: H. C. Gustafson and John Gustafson, Souris.

"Gustav Johnson was born in Vermland, Sweden of John and Karen Johnson, immigrated to America in 1892, and came to Grant County. He came here in 1897, and took homestead in Haram. Siblings: N. J. Johnson.

Albert Ekblad was born in 1884 in Evansville, Douglas County, Minnesota of parents Erik Ekbal and wife Gunhild Johnson. His father is Swedish, and his mother is Norwegian. His father is dead, the mother lives. Ekblad came to this settlement in 1903. He married in 1907 to Henriette Lucht, born in Michigan. Their children are: Marjory and Harald.

Jacob Redal was born at Redal in Bevring, Søndfjord in 1872, and immigrated at age 17 to Tacoma, Washington. After staying there for a period, he came to Minneapolis, and attended Augsburg Seminary, and began his activity as pastor in Bagler, Minnesota. After two years work, Redal worked seven years at Hendrum and Berley, Minnesota.

And then moved in 1913 to Souris, North Dakota, as Pastor for Turtle Mountain, Lesje, Rethesdal and Concordia parishes.

He married Karoline Aasen from Portland. Their children: Leroy, Alf (deceased), Evelyn, Stella, Jeanette, Erling and Alfa.

Redal's sister, Hilda Underhid is married to Mads Larson, Hendrum, Minnesota. Mrs. Redal's siblings: Olaus Aasen, pastor in the Free Church, Anton Aasen, song leader, teacher, Fargo; Helmer, and Elmer Aasen, Cohagen, Montana.

The parents came from Ringsaker, and came to America in the 70s. Both are deceased. The grandfather, Andreas Redal, is deceased. Son, Lars Redal, "bødker" and lay preacher, and J. L. ---. The mother, Marie, born Natvik in Sogn, died in Halstad, Minnesota in 1914.

Olav Redal was born in Bevring, Søndfjord November 4th, 1882, of parents Jacob Anderson and Guro Olsdatter, and immigrated to Iceland in 1907. After staying three years, he came here in 1911. He lived by Hendrum, Minnesota; Morehead, Minnesota, where he took a course at Concordia College.

After his arrival in America, he held Norwegian school, and worked at farming. He was a saga writer since 1912.

He now runs a bakery in Stanley, North Dakota. Secretary in Viking Lodge 177.

Ole Myhr lives in Souris. Here Ole G. Berge also lived, but is now deceased. Emil Erikson, Swedish, has a successful machine business. The town's doctor is the well-known Haldorson from Seydisfjordur, Iceland. As most Icelanders, Halvorson is a sensible man with a great interest in many matters. He is a member of Lesje Lodge in Souris, and the lodge's doctor. A brother of Halderson was editor for the town's newspaper. He died a few years ago. Haldorson speaks English, Norwegian and Icelandic, and perhaps even more. Bank cashier Ogren is Swedish. Henry Petterson, the other bank cashier in Souris, has recently died. Jr. O. Larson is the editor of the Souris Messenger.

"Roth"

The town of Roth has been given its name after pioneer Martin Roth at Carbury. Roth was laid out before Carbury, and was called after one of the first settlers in Roth. But the Norwegian population did not like the name, as they had difficulty with the pronunciation.

Then there was one of the early settlers by Roth, by name Christofferson, and was from a farm by name Faldet.

There were who wanted to give this farm a permanent name, but calling to town "Faldet". But the Americans had difficulty saying, "Faldet", and then there were some that feared that one or other could perhaps call the town "Syndefaldet". Out of this disagreement they came to prefer "Carbury", but even this name the town could not keep, as at the same time the present day Carbury was established, and that town was Roth.

Both these new towns were given their name back from the state secretary John Flittie, but Roth was sent to Carbury, and Carbury to Roth. Therefore Roth is called Carbury, Carbury is called Roth this day today. In any case, there was an appeal to call the town Armstrong after a Scots family, who were of the first settlers in the region. But this name stranded on Jim Hill's opposition. Jim Hill had once during a hunting trip to Turtle Mountain driven over Mrs. Armstrong's land, and cut a wire fence to get through. This was probably one of Jim Hill's minor misdeeds, but Mrs. Armstrong took this encroachment much to her dislike, and gave Jim a piece of her mind. Therefore, the town is not called "Armstrong".

"Landa"

This town is apparently the most Norwegian town in America. There is only one man who is not Norwegian in the town and that is depot agent. In Landa you hear Norwegian spoken everywhere, and people are not afraid of speaking Norwegian in Landa.

Ole J. Olsen was born at Bjørhaste, Nordfjord in 1875 of parents Jacob Olsen Bjørhaste and wife Malene D. Røstdal, both deceased. He came to America in 1891, and stayed in Ortonville, Minnesota, and Fargo, North Dakota until 1899, when he came to this settlement, where he is a contractor. John and Mat Olsen live in Landa. Oline in Minneapolis and Dedrik in Norway.

Bjarne Brekke was born at Voss of parents Knut Brekke and Brita, born Asdal. The father is deceased, while the mother lives. Bjarne emigrated in 1897, and worked in

Rockdell, Minnesota for four years by Stanley, North Dakota, and then came to this settlement in 1906, where he started a store in Landa, and has been postmaster in Landa from 1911. He married in 1906 to Elise Hanson, stepdaughter of Henry Johnson, Eidsvold. Their children are Herman and Borghild. His wife's father, Andr. Hanson from Sogn, died in Slater, Iowa, and mother, Brite, born in Gudbrandsdal, was later married to H. Johnson. She is deceased. Wife's siblings: Mrs. Johs, Fosse, Eidsvold; Mrs. A. J. Andersen, Des Moines, Iowa; Hans and Christ Hanson, San Francisco, California. Bjarne's brother Nil Brekke was born at Voss in 1888, and came here in 1901. He stayed in Jackson, Minnesota for 3 years; South Dakota for 2 years. He took homestead in Mountrail County in 1907, and drove the mail from Landa for a period, then went to Fertile, where he was in business from 1909 until 1911, when he came back to Landa where he is with his brother in business. Nils married in 1914 to Stella Larson, daughter of C. L. Larson. He was two years at Grand Forks College. His other brothers are Lars in St. Paul, Torger in Des Moines, Knut is deceased.

Edvard A. Foss was born in Willmar, Minnesota in 1879 of parents Anders Foss from Fimreite in Sogn, and wife Anna Foss. His father is deceased, and the mother lives in Minnesota. They came from Norway about 50 years ago, and settled in Starbuck, Minnesota. Edvard took homestead by Mohall in 1900, and has a restaurant in Landa.

He married Karen Sem from Trondhjem in 1907, and has the following children: Andrew, Elmer, Carl, and Annie, the last one is deceased. Edward's siblings: Ole Foss, Bellingham, Washington; Andr. Foss, Sharon, North Dakota; John Foss, Starbuck, Minnesota.

C. C. Jacobson was born at Skien, age 46, and came to Wisconsin together with his parents. His father Christ Jacobson lives in Canada, the mother is deceased.

C. C. Jacobson came to Bottineau County in 1902, and took homestead land in Eidsvold.

He married Tilda Kristianson, and has children Lela and Viola. A brother of Jacobson is contractor in Minneapolis, and another is merchant in Canada. One is a contractor in Great Falls, Montana, and a sister is married by Hillebo, Park River, North Dakota. He has been a member of the North Dakota Legislator since 1912, and is foreman in the school board.

Peder Børresen was born at Ringsaker in 1852, of parents Børre Pedersen and wife Marta. His father died in Spring Grove, Minnesota, and the mother in Oregon. Peder came to this land in 1867, and stayed in Spring Grove, Minnesota until 1881, and in Hillsboro, North Dakota until 1900, when he came here Børresen was one of the first merchants in Souris. He now operates a lumber store in Landa. He took homestead in 1899, a year before he came here. In 1883 he married Anne Marie Ydstie from Trondhjem. Their children: Bernhard, married to Anne Liljedal, Gilhard, Jennie, married to Karl Pederson, Glasgow, Montana, Alvin, May and Vera. Peder's siblings are: Ole Børresen, Spring Grove, Minnesota; Albert Pederson, Stanley, North Dakota; John Børresen, Iowa; Mrs. Anna Bankhus, Oregon.

Mrs. Børresen's siblings: Andr. Ydstie, North Dakota; Mrs. A. Skogen, Hillsboro, North Dakota; Mrs. Tine Kosen, Crander, Nevada; Berhard Børresen, living in Montana, married to Anne Liljedal, born in Nordfjord.

"Farmer Corporation"

In a pioneer settlement one cannot expect that people do not have time other than to survive in the first difficult years. Life was a continuous battle for survival. "Men denne kamp tror jeg naar høide punktet i en vild og øde egn som nettopp er tatt i besiddelse av nybyggere"

but as soon as orderly conditions arrive in such a settlement, as prosperity grew, then farmers have more time to be directed to other interests.

Page 635

The first association of farmer was organized in 1894 by The Scandinavian Farmer's Mutual Fire Insurance Co., which began with membership of twenty-five. Their prospects were not promising. Most of them at that time lived in log cabins of little value.

But as the settlements grew, more people came in. Over 4,000 policies were issued with an insurance amount of four million dollars, and the company continues to progress, and has unbounded trust among the settlement's population.

Among them who shall have the honor in organizing this association shall be named Jacob Dalen, Sivert Haugen, Jacob Gorder, Nils Magnuson and Nils Glomseth.

Jacob Gorder has in all these 20 years been the company's president. Gilbert Vikan, Bottineau is cashier, and Nils Magnuson has for fifteen years been secretary. Now the pioneer settlement went over to becoming an old settlement.

With good land and good infrastructure, the pioneers after 20 years of hard effort, now sat on their land "trygt".

Then Jacob Gorder and Nils Magnuson in 1908 called a meeting, which led to the Farmers Mutual Telephone Company being organized the same year. Its first president was Jacob L. Gorder. Now it is Glomseth. Nils Magnuson has for this period been the association's secretary.

All who have telephones put in pay \$55.00, and became shareholders in the company. Yearly expenses are assessed on each member. The association began with 60 subscribers, and 48 miles telephone line.

Page 636

Now it has 360 subscribers and 280 miles telephone line estimated at \$20,000. The telephone company's central station is in Carbury, and managed by Miss Rothe, daughter of Martin Rothe, who acts as the company's mechanic and inspector. Now it is hardly a farm in the settlement who does not have a phone. Now it is hardly anyone who stands at the telephone, and chatters about wind and weather.

Of other farmer unions which have taken place in the settlement, elevators especially have been of importance for the population in the fall 1907. The Farmer's Elevator in Landa was organized, and is owned with a couple exceptions nearly all of Norwegian farmers in the town's vicinities.

A.R. Taraldset is the present president; John Martinson, Secretary; Anton Sivertson, Vice-President; Alfred Martinson and Knudt Bangs, Directors.

Vancouver Development Co., which was organized in 1907 is more a speculation effort.

Page 637

This company owns 5,500 acres forest land on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, and is valued at \$100,000. The association's president is L. Mork, Souris, Secretary and Cashier Nils Magnuson and S. Gorder, Vice-President. Each share is \$100.00, and most of the shareholders are Norwegians in Bottineau County.